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NWT Labour Force Activity

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www.statsnwt.ca

January 2017

Overview

Statistics Canada estimates that in January 2017, 21,100 out of 32,400 residents 15 years of age and older were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 65.1%. Employment dropped by 700 persons from December 2016, making it the largest drop in employment between these two months since 2001, and the lowest number of employed people since May 2010.

In January 2017, the employment rate dropped 2.2 percentage points from 67.3% in December. At 65.1%, the January employment rate was the lowest since May 2010.

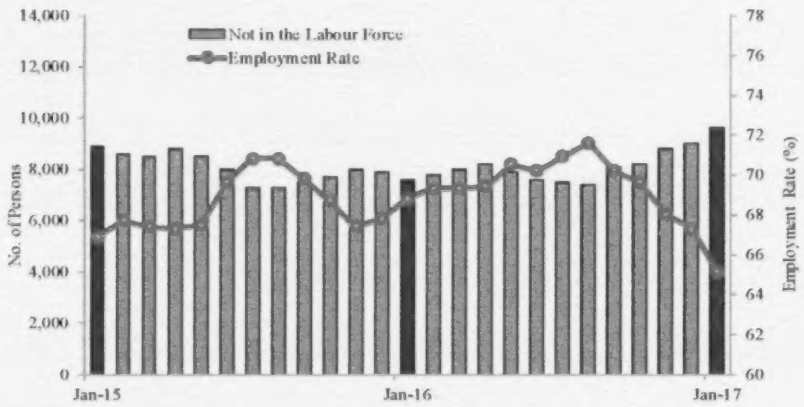
The number of unemployed persons was unchanged from the previous month. However with 700 fewer people in the labour force compared to December 2016, the unemployment rate increased to 7.0%.

Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 60.9%, with Yukon (71.1%) having the highest employment rate, followed by Alberta (66.0%) and the Northwest Territories.

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	Jan-2017	Dec-2016	Jan-2016	Change from 12 months ago	
				#	%
Population 15+	32,400	32,400	32,100	300	0.9
Labour force	22,700	23,400	24,400	(1,700)	(7.0)
Employment	21,100	21,800	22,100	(1,000)	(4.5)
Full-time	18,300	19,200	18,800	(500)	(2.7)
Part-time	2,800	2,600	3,300	(500)	(15.2)
Unemployment	1,600	1,600	2,300	(700)	(30.4)
Participation rate (%)	70.1	72.2	76.0		
Unemployment rate (%)	7.0	6.8	9.4		
Employment rate (%)	65.1	67.3	68.8		

Figure 1: Persons Not in the Labour Force and Employment Rate, NWT 2015-2017



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Employment by key characteristics

The employment rate declined across all key characteristics in January 2017. The year-over-year drop in the employment rate by 10.6 and 6.2 percentage points for youths aged 15-24 and Aboriginal persons, respectively, was the highest among key demographic characteristics.

Year-over-year, the only increase to the number of employed persons occurred for those living outside Yellowknife.

Table 2: Employment and employment rates by key characteristics

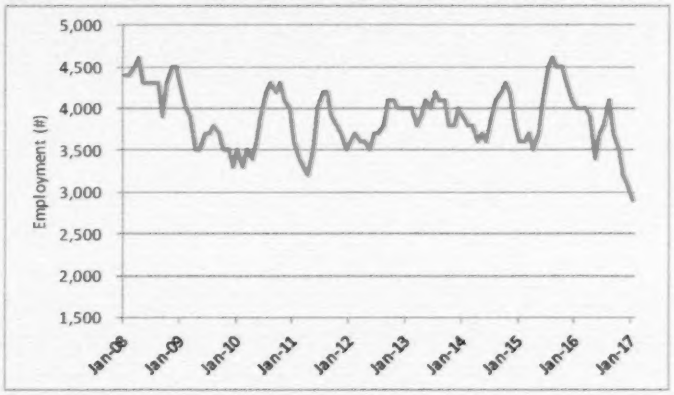
	Jan-17		Dec-16		Jan-16		Change from	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	1 Month ago	1 Year ago
Northwest Territories	21,100	65.1	21,800	67.3	22,100	68.8	(700)	(1,000)
15-24 Yrs.	2,200	38.6	2,600	44.8	2,900	49.2	(400)	(700)
25+ Yrs.	18,800	70.7	19,200	72.2	19,300	73.7	(400)	(500)
Males	10,200	63.0	10,700	65.6	10,800	67.1	(500)	(600)
Females	10,900	67.7	11,100	68.9	11,300	70.6	(200)	(400)
Aboriginal	8,300	51.6	8,300	52.5	8,900	57.8	0	(600)
Non-Aboriginal	12,800	79.0	13,500	81.3	13,200	79.5	(700)	(400)
Yellowknife	11,000	75.9	11,500	79.3	12,300	79.9	(500)	(1,300)
Other	10,100	56.7	10,300	57.5	9,800	58.7	(200)	300

Employment by industry

Employment results were mixed between sectors. Compared to January 2016, employment increased by 700 in the public sector and by 300 in self-employment. On the on other hand, employment in the private sector declined by 2,100 to 9,700 in January 2017, the lowest for this sector since April 2010.

At 18,100 persons, employment in the services-producing sector was unchanged from January 2016. Meanwhile, employment dropped by 1,100 to 2,900 in the goods-producing industry, the lowest number of employed persons in this industry since February 2001. The goods-producing industry accounted for 13.7% of total NWT employment in January 2017.

Figure 2: Employment in goods-producing industry, NWT, Jan 2008 to Jan 2017



Historical labour force activity

Table 3: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Jan-17	32,400	22,700	21,100	1,600	9,600	70.1	7.0	65.1
Dec-16	32,400	23,400	21,800	1,600	9,000	72.2	6.8	67.3
Nov-16	32,500	23,700	22,100	1,600	8,800	72.9	6.8	68.0
Oct-16	32,600	24,400	22,700	1,700	8,200	74.8	7.0	69.6
Sep-16	32,600	24,500	22,900	1,600	8,100	75.2	6.5	70.2
Aug-16	32,700	25,300	23,400	1,900	7,400	77.4	7.5	71.6
Jul-16	32,600	25,100	23,100	2,100	7,500	77.0	8.4	70.9
Jun-16	32,600	24,900	22,900	2,000	7,600	76.4	8.0	70.2
May-16	32,500	24,600	22,900	1,700	7,900	75.7	6.9	70.5
Apr-16	32,400	24,100	22,500	1,600	8,200	74.4	6.6	69.4
Mar-16	32,300	24,200	22,400	1,800	8,000	74.9	7.4	69.3
Feb-16	32,200	24,400	22,300	2,100	7,800	75.8	8.6	69.3
Previous Years:								
Jan-16	32,100	24,400	22,100	2,300	7,600	76.0	9.4	68.8
Jan-15	32,300	23,400	21,600	1,800	8,900	72.4	7.7	66.9
Jan-14	32,600	24,400	22,500	1,900	8,200	74.8	7.8	69.0
Jan-13	32,600	24,400	22,600	1,800	8,200	74.8	7.4	69.3
Jan-12	32,300	24,200	22,300	1,900	8,100	74.9	7.9	69.0
Jan-11	32,100	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,500	73.5	7.6	67.9
Jan-10	31,800	22,100	20,700	1,400	9,700	69.5	6.3	65.1
Jan-09	31,700	22,800	21,800	1,000	8,900	71.9	4.4	68.8
Jan-08	31,700	23,700	22,300	1,400	8,000	74.8	5.9	70.3
Jan-07	31,300	24,600	23,300	1,300	6,800	78.6	5.3	74.4

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca/ or call (867) 767-9169.

Next Release: March 10, 2017